



GC Leader Notes

Date: April 2, 2025

GC Scripture: Ephesians 2:1–10

Paired Sermon Text: Romans 8:1–4

Why Ephesians 2:1–10 with Romans 8:1–4?

- **Romans 8:1–4** announces there is **no condemnation** for believers because God did what the law could not: He sent Jesus to bear our sin and gave us His Spirit to fulfill the law's requirements in us.
 - **Ephesians 2:1–10** shows our movement from **spiritual death to new life** in Christ, celebrating both God's mercy and our re-created purpose for good works.
 - Together, these texts portray the **complete gospel**: saved **from** sin's penalty (no condemnation) and saved **for** Spirit-empowered obedience.
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1. HEADS:

What do we learn from Jesus here?

- **He Rescues Us from Death (Eph. 2:1–5)**
 - We were not just sick in sin; we were dead.
 - “But God...” made us alive with Christ (v.5) and freed us from condemnation (Rom. 8:1–3).
- **He Saves by Grace, Not Merit (Eph. 2:8–9)**
 - Salvation is God's gift, not our doing.
 - Romans 8 highlights that the law was powerless to save; only Jesus could.
- **He Re-Creates Us for Holiness (Eph. 2:10)**



- We are God's workmanship in Christ, prepared to walk in good works.
 - This corresponds to Romans 8:4, where the Spirit enables us to fulfill the law's righteous requirements.
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2. HEARTS:

How does this passage convict, comfort, or encourage us to trust and love Jesus more deeply?

- **Conviction:**
 - We were entirely helpless, dead in sin, and under God's wrath without Christ.
 - **Comfort:**
 - **"But God..."** He didn't leave us in that state. By His mercy, we have new life in Christ.
 - **Encouragement:**
 - Jesus bore our condemnation. Now fully accepted, we can live in freedom rather than shame, trusting the Spirit's power to transform us.
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3. HANDS:

What immediate step of obedience is Jesus calling us to?

- **Walk in Newness of Life**
 - Both Ephesians 2:10 and Romans 8:4 call us to live differently now—our salvation is a springboard for obedience.
- **Live by the Spirit**
 - Practically, this is daily dependence on the Spirit's guidance in choices, habits, and relationships.
- **Renounce Lingering Shame**



- If guilt or condemnation from past sins lingers, apply the truth of “no condemnation” (Rom. 8:1) to set one another free.
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4. HABITS:

How is Jesus instructing us to adopt any new or renewed habits from this text?

- **Start Each Day in Your New Identity**
 - Remind yourself: “I am God’s workmanship and there is no condemnation for me in Christ.”
- **Practice Gospel-Centered Repentance**
 - When we sin, we confess, cling to Christ’s grace, and move forward without fear.
- **Encourage One Another in Joyful Obedience**
 - Let grace be the fuel for accountability—building each other up to follow Christ wholeheartedly.